



COMMUNITY
Belchertown photographer
exhibit at CDH...p. 5



EDUCATION
Seniors featured in
Q and A...p. 10



PEOPLE
Couple celebrates
60 years ...p. 12



SPORTS
Spring sports
returns...p. 15

BELCHERTOWN

ATM to be outside

MELINA BOURDEAU
Staff writer

BELCHERTOWN – With a strong recommendation from the Board of Health to have the meeting outdoors, the Annual Town Meeting will be on June 12 outdoors.

Board members unanimously supported the decision, which was originally proposed to be inside of the gym.

Town Administrator Gary Brougham presented the plan to have the meeting in the gym.

“If we were to do a similar event (to last year’s Annual Town Meeting) it would be costly and logistically challenging to make it all work,” said Brougham. “I suggested the meeting be in gym, we have the rapid air exchange, the windows and doors open, and the ability to social distance properly – that was primarily consistent with what board members comment that could be inside or out, but not both.”

Some of the challenges presented by having an outdoor meeting – having the ability to have electricity, an accessible location, bathrooms and others.

Quabbin Health Director Stephen Bell told the Selectboard of the Board of Health’s determination.

See **ATM**, page 14 •

(Virtual) Night at the Museum



Chestnut Hill sixth grader Emily Waller did her project on Queen Cleopatra, who was the last true pharaoh who ruled for nearly three decades.

Students create exhibit on Egypt

STAFF REPORT

BELCHERTOWN – This academic year has been one for the record books - and speaking of record books, Egypt wrote many of them.

Out of the original seven wonders of the ancient world, only one stands today - the pyramids at Giza. However, the pyramids only scratch the surface of Egypt’s amazing history.

Chestnut Hill Community School students became experts on Egypt learning about different aspects of ancient Egyptian life from fashion to war tactics.

“At CHCS, we see value in these in-depth projects, getting below the surface, and creating,” sixth grade teacher Michael Berg said.

See **EGYPT**, page 12 •



Chestnut Hill Community School sixth grader Payton Tucker wrote about Hatshepsut. She had to dress in a headdress and a cobra. “She even wore a fake beard because if you want to be pharaoh you have to dress like one. Hatshepsut did not want to be a Queen she wanted to be king and she depicted herself as male,” wrote Tucker.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Selectboard hires new fire chief

MELINA BOURDEAU
Staff writer

BELCHERTOWN – The Selectboard unanimously approved hiring John Ingram as the next Belchertown Fire Chief.

Ingram currently serves as Fire Chief in Leverett, where he’s served since 2015, and a Captain at Amherst Fire Department, where he’s served since 2008.



John Ingram

Following interviews with the Fire Chief Search Committee, Ingram was the finalist for the position with unanimous support from the committee as well.

Last week, the Selectboard conducted an interview with Ingram.

Ingram brings 31 years in fire service to the table, beginning as a call firefighter in Amherst immediately after high school.

“I just really loved it and moved my way up,” he said. “I started on the call force in Amherst and I am still working at the Fire Chief in Leverett, which has a call force.”

Selectboard member Ed Boscher asked Ingram how he envisioned working with the call force.

“Having a call department that are trained and able to respond – it’s tremendous for the community and to have your own community members be part of your department it’s great as well,” said Ingram. “It’s great asset for the town and for the department, you still have to work as one, be cohesive and make sure the training is the same so (there isn’t) a difference in the service.”

Barry asked Ingram about the most concerning aspect of Belchertown’s Fire Department – being understaffed.

“With 16 full-time firefighters and 35 call force and the 24-hour staffing... a number of times that we can’t have a full (crew) on site or those were on site have to leave and we have to call for mutual aid. Our mutual aid calls are going up and up and up,” Barry said. “How do you envision dealing with a staff that is not really large enough

See **CHIEF**, page 12 •

BOARD OF HEALTH

Board of Health votes to catch up to state reopening

MELINA BOURDEAU
Staff writer

BELCHERTOWN – As vaccination numbers are on the rise, the Belchertown Board of Health voted to align with the current reopening plan set by the state of Massachusetts, moving into Phase IV step one.

The board was divided on the vote with three in favor, an abstention from member Ken Elstein and Colleen Duroshea voted against the motion.

Quabbin Health District Director Stephen Bell presented the board with his reasoning

behind moving into the next phase of reopening. He said there were a couple of factors in his decision.

“The main one is it’s very difficult to carry out enforcement because everyone is getting information from all over the place. The state has one thing, the federal government has theirs and we have our own – people are getting confused and following the one they want,” Bell said.

He said personally, he has found it difficult to find information

“Everyone is getting information from all over the place. The state has one thing, the federal government has theirs and we have our own – people are getting confused and following the one they want.”

STEPHEN BELL
Quabbin Health District Director

tion on previous phase because the information gets taken down.

Bell added that the town is “moving in a good direction”

“Our case numbers have been down and the percentage of vaccinated people, at least with one dose, has gone above 50%,” he

said. “If you’re paying attention to other states, other countries, when the hit that percentage mark of people with at least one dose, they tend to see a dropping

See **BOH**, page 5 •



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COMMUNITY

Granby Selectboard opts to form police search committee

MELINA BOURDEAU
Staff writer

GRANBY – While its members haven’t been appointed yet, the Granby Selectboard decided to create a search committee to aid in finding the next police chief.

With Chief Alan Wishart set to retire in July, Selectboard members hope to have some overlap between the two chiefs.

Town Administrator Chris Martin urged the board to create the committee in a Selectboard meeting last Thursday and on Monday, the board discussed potential members.

“With the number of applications received, I feel I it would benefit the town to have a search committee go through them and bring back no less than three and no more than eight, if they want to bring them all to the Selectboard,” Martin said. “I think we should have members of the police advisory committee and a couple of residents, to review these and bring (the finalists) forward.”

He said every other department head hired was selected via a search committee process.

Selectboard Chair Glenn Sexton proposed having one to two people sit in on the Selectboard meetings as the board members go through the interview process.

However, Martin told the board to have the Selectboard conduct interviews, review resumes and other elements of the process – all of it would have to be in public session due to the Open Meeting Law.

Selectboard member Jennifer Silva proposed having board member on the search committee. The search committee, once appointed by the Selectboard, will go through the resumes of the eight current applicants, before proposing finalists to the board.

Sexton said he hopes the process will last about a month.

In the board’s meeting on Monday, Martin brought forward a suggested appointment list including members of the police advisory board and those with experience hiring department heads.

The current list includes Michael Barrett, Wayne Wilson, Bryan Hauschild, Virginia Snopek and Sexton.

Outgoing Selectboard member Jay Joyce proposed including Belchertown Police Chief Chris Pronovost on the committee, due to his experience having served in Granby as a police officer.

Silva supported the suggestion.

“I would like someone currently in a police department, serving as a chief or assistant chief, something similar to that,” she said. “They’re more up to date on what’s going to happen in the department (as far as police reform.)”

Wishart has been serving the department for over 25 years. He was originally set to retire in May, however his contract was extended, allowing the board more time to find his replacement.

The group is set to discuss the formation of the committee and its member at its next meeting.

Spaghetti
Supper at
Hope Church

BELCHERTOWN – Hope United Methodist Church’s Mission Team will be holding a Pick-Up Spaghetti Supper on Saturday, May 15 with pick up between 4 and 6 p.m. The delicious dinner will consist of spaghetti, meatballs, salad, a roll and dessert and will cost just \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Please reserve your tickets by May 10 by calling the church office at 413-323-7584 or emailing Lois at kickthetick@yahoo.com. Tickets can be picked up and paid for at the church office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays between 8:30 and 12 p.m. Alternative arrangements can be made when you order your tickets if this isn’t possible. The church is located on the Belchertown common at 31 Main Street.

The spaghetti supper is an annual tradition at Hope with the proceeds being used to support their sister church in Nicaragua.

Mother’s Day
flower sale

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown United Church of Christ, 18 Park St, Belchertown will host a Mother’s Day flower sale on Saturday May 8 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Flowers are provided by Randall’s Green House. Come early, there is a limited supply.

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■ COMMUNITY

Jabish Brook Middle School enters into eligibility period

BELCHERTOWN—Jabish Brook Middle School was invited into the Massachusetts School Building Authority eligibility period.

During the 270-day eligibility period, the MSBA will work with the district to determine the district’s financial and community readiness to enter the MSBA capital pipeline.

“The Board has voted the Jabish Brook Middle School into the Eligibility Period,” said State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg. “The MSBA will work collaboratively with local officials to ensure the best outcome for the District’s students.”

Belchertown Superintendent Brian Cameron said just because of this invitation, doesn’t mean that there will be a brand new Jabish Brook Middle School.

“Good news, but it doesn’t mean we’re getting what we want,” he said. “Our official start date isn’t until July 1. We have a program coordinator who is going to reach out to guide us through this process. I will update (the School Committee) at each meeting. But there is still a lot of unanswered questions at this time.”

He estimated the entire process could be

about five to seven years as a process from start to finish.

The next step is for the district to complete preliminary requirements of local approval and formation of a local school building committee. Upon timely and successful completion of the eligibility period requirements, the district becomes eligible for an invitation into the Feasibility Study phase of the MSBA capital pipeline, subject to a vote of the Board of Directors.

“The Eligibility Period is a critical step in the MSBA’s process of evaluating potential work on the Jabish Brook Middle School,” stated MSBA Executive Director Jack McCarthy. “We look forward to our continued partnership with the District as it enters the eligibility period.”

The MSBA partners with Massachusetts communities to support the design and construction of educationally-appropriate, flexible, sustainable and cost-effective public school facilities. Since its 2004 inception, the Authority has made over 1,750 site visits to more than 250 school districts as part of its due diligence process and has made over \$15.1 billion in reimbursements for school construction projects.

Belchertown Selectboard announces board/committee vacancies

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Selectboard is looking for citizens interested in sharing their expertise by serving on a town board/committee. If you have time and are interested in getting involved in your town’s activities, please submit a letter of interest to: Selectboard, The Finnerty House, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, MA 01007 or by email to selectmen@belchertown.org (unless otherwise indicated below). The town wishes to fill the following vacancies:

Historic District By-Law Commission: The town wishes to fill an associate member seat (non-voting) and an at-large (full member) seat on the Historic District By-Law Commission. The Commission has regulatory control over new construction, reconstruction, alterations, movements and demolition of all exterior architectural features of buildings and structures within the Historic District which are visible from any public street, public way or public park. The deadline has been extended to 12 p.m. on Friday, May 28.

Zoning Board of Appeals – Associate Member: The ZBA is responsible for hearing and deciding on applica-

tions for special permits, variances and appeals from decisions of the Zoning Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector. The deadline has been extended to 12 p.m. on May 28, 2021.

Anticipated Vacancies

Family Center Committee: The town is seeking to fill two anticipated vacancies on the Family Center Committee which sets policy and procedures, and oversees the Belchertown Family Center.

If you are interested in serving on the Family Center Committee, please submit a letter of interest to the Belchertown Selectboard, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, MA 01007 no later than May 28.

Council on Aging: The Selectboard wishes to fill an anticipated vacancy on the Council on Aging. Members of the Council on Aging coordinate programs and services for the elderly population and oversee the Belchertown Senior Center.

If you are interested in serving on the Council on Aging, please submit a letter of interest to the Belchertown Select Board, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, MA 01007 no later than May 28.

Walk-ins (and fly-ins) welcome.

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Sen. Lesser named co-chair of New Future of Work Commission

Commission to investigate the impacts of
technology and remote work on the workforce

STAFF REPORT

REGION – Senator Eric P. Lesser was recently appointed Senate Chair of the Commission on the Future of Work by Senate President Karen Spilka. The Commission, established as a part of the 2020 economic development and jobs bill signed into law on Jan. 14, 2021, will conduct a comprehensive study on the impact of automation, artificial intelligence, global trade, access to new forms of data and the internet of things on the workforce, businesses and economy here in the Commonwealth. The main purpose of the commission is to ensure sustainable jobs, fair benefits and workplace safety standards for workers in all industries.

"We know the way we work is changing. As COVID-19 crashed into our economy, many gig workers, drivers, musicians, and independent contractors faced a future

with no unemployment insurance or workplace protections," said Senator Lesser, Senate Chair of the Future of Work Commission and Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Economic Development. "The nature of work itself has changed in the 21st Century, but we still operate off of a regulatory policy from the 19th Century. I'm excited to hit the ground running with my Co-Chair, Rep. Cutler on the Commission on the Future of Work. We'll convene the leaders of our state in a dialogue about the future to begin charting the path for a new era."

"One of the few bright spots of the past year is that it has forced us to reimagine the role of the workplace. As we emerge from the pandemic and look to ensure that no one is left behind in our recovery, this is the ideal time to take a deeper dive into fundamental questions on the future of work—where we work, how we work, and when we

work," said Representative Josh S. Cutler, House Chair of the Future of Work Commission and House Chair of the Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development. "We need to ensure that our workforce is properly supported and prepared for transformations and changes in the nature of work. I'm excited to tackle these issues with Chair Lesser and the distinguished members of the commission."

The 17-member commission, co-chaired by Senator Lesser and Rep. Cutler, will include Rosalin Acosta, Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development or her designee as well as two members appointed by Governor Baker and two members appointed by Attorney General Healey. The co-chairs will appoint six additional members as well.

The Commission will hold hearings to receive testimony from leaders in workforce training and education, fair labor and workers' rights, members of the labor community, and members of the business community to help inform a final report with their findings and policy recommendations.

Belchertown Community Television schedule

BELCHERTOWN – This is the upcoming schedule for Thursday, May 6 to Wednesday, May 5.

Thursday, May 12

- 8 a.m. – Selectboard – May 3
- 10 a.m. – Board of Health – May 3
- 6:30 p.m. – Finance Committee/Selectboard – Channel 191
- 8:30 p.m. – Selectboard – May 3
- 10:30 p.m. – Board of Health – May 3

Friday, May 7

- 8 a.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 9 a.m. – Stephen Bell – New Director of Public Health
- 7 p.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 8 p.m. – Stephen Bell – New Director of Public Health

Saturday, May 8

- 8 a.m. – Curious Giraffe
- 9 a.m. – COVID – Her Story
- 9:30 a.m. – Candidates' Night 2021
- 7 p.m. – COVID – Her Story
- 7:30 p.m. – Stephen Bell – New Director of Public Health
- 8 p.m. – Candidates' Night 2021

Sunday, May 9

- 4:30 p.m. – St. Francis Roman Catholic Church
- 6 p.m. – Christ Community Church
- 7 p.m. – Hope United Methodist Church
- 8:30 p.m. – Stephen Bell – New Director of Public Health
- 9 p.m. – Candidates' Night 2021

Monday, May 10

- 8 a.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 9 a.m. – Candidates' Night 2021
- 5 p.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 6:30 p.m. – Selectboard – Channel 191
- 7 p.m. – Conservation Comm. – Channel 192

Tuesday, May 11

- 8 a.m. – Curious Giraffe
- 9 a.m. – Belchertown Community Garden - 2020
- 10 a.m. – Belchertown School Garden - 2020
- 11 a.m. – Belchertown School Pollinator Garden - 2020
- 6:30 p.m. – School Committee – Channel 192
- 7 p.m. – Planning Board – Channel 191

Wednesday, May 12

- 8 a.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 9 a.m. – Candidates' Night 2021
- 1 p.m. – Meditation with Lori - Senses
- 5 p.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 7 p.m. – ZBA – Channel 191

The BCTV Studio is located at 68 State St., Belchertown. BCTV channels are 191, 192 and 193. The BCTV schedule is available at www.Belchertown.org. On the main title page select "residents," click on Belchertown Community Television. Selected BCTV shows are also available on Vimeo. Go to www.Belchertown.org, go to quick links and click on "watch meetings and events online." The schedule is subject to change.

The BCTV weather information system is broadcast on TV channel 193 and displays the current weather conditions at the BCTV station as well as, the current regional radar. This service operates 24 hours a day with audio provided by the National Weather Service from Albany New York, with forecasts, storm and emergency warnings for the Pioneer Valley.



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Belchertown photographer exhibition at Cooley Dickinson

Exhibition dedicated to health care workers

STAFF REPORT

NORTHAMPTON – Images from as close to home as the Quabbin Reservoir to as far away as Antarctica by Belchertown photographer Jim Gambaro are on display in the West Gallery at Cooley Dickinson Hospital, 30 Locust St., Northampton, through June 30. Works range from horses and penguins to soft focus cityscapes and abstracts.

“After all our health care workers have done during the pandemic, I hope this exhibition will provide them a bit of joy and respite as they go about their daily duties,” said Gambaro. “Sharing my art is my version of saying ‘thank you’ to them for all they do for our community.”

“I have always looked for subjects and lighting that stimulate the child’s ‘wow’ factor in my mind’s eye, zeroing in on details small and large, on landscapes both natural and constructed, and on places distant and close to home,” he explained. “If the images in this exhibit manage to convey some of the pleasure I experienced in their creation, I consider them successful.”

Gambaro’s eclectic background includes a BA in Art Education



Spillway in Painterly Mode by Belchertown photographer Jim Gambaro.

from Montclair University, followed by work as a junior high art instructor, journalist, commercial photographer, news photographer and human service worker. In his retirement, he travels as a fine art photographer with the intention to pass along what he calls, “the simple pleasures of seeing.” Much of his work can be seen in his online gallery, <https://jimgambarophotography.zenfolio.com/>

The art galleries at Cooley Dickinson are a project of the Friends of Cooley Dickinson Hospital and a portion of sales benefits the hospital.

Pensive Chinstrap by Belchertown photographer Jim Gambaro.



Weaverish Soft Abstraction by Belchertown photographer Jim Gambaro will be on display at Cooley Dickinson.

BOH • from page 1

off of cases. We’re there.”

He said the number of cases from this past week was down from the week before.

“There is potential for stagnation because you get to the point where people are vaccinated are the ones who don’t want to get it at all,” he added. “We’re doing well in that regard.”

Bell said there are upcoming milestones that will effect

the town including on May 10, which is when youth sports will be allowed to hold bigger competitions. The other is that modified road races will be allowed.

Then on May 29, there will be the “bigger changes.”

“The gathering limits go up to 250 outdoors for public events, provided the space can facilitate six feet of social distancing. The town common might be able to hold that many people,” he said. “On May 29, street festivals and agricultural fairs can start happen-

ing again at 50% capacity from the previous time it was run. ... Restaurants are no longer required to serve food with alcohol, so they would be able to have people seated at the bar, they aren’t taking away the social distancing rules, the masks, but people would be able to order a drink, without having to order food.”

The next big milestone after that is in August, which has been tentatively set as the date all restrictions will be removed.

Cub Scout Pack 57 can, bottle drive

BELCHERTOWN – Cub Scout Pack 57 is holding its annual bottle and can drive on Saturday, May 8 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Pride Gas Station parking lot, 165 State St, Belchertown. Gather up all those unwanted returnable bottles and cans while you are doing your spring cleaning and help support the Scouts. Bring them to Pride Gas Station where the Cubs

will be collecting them to raise money to help make their scouting program more educational and their outdoor experience more enjoyable.

For more information on Pack 57, find us on Facebook at BelchertownPack57, email 57committee.chair@gmail.com or call Cub Scout Master Dave Mavlounganes at 413-237-7103.



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OPINION

IN THE GARDEN

The Garden Lady takes on various pests

Elaine, who gardens in Ware, wrote in with this question for the Garden Lady: “I have a problem with grubs and moles. In your article you said beer is effective on grubs. Would you please explain how to do this. My whole yard and vegetable garden is infested. Last year I found out my vegetables had grubs and mole tunnels. Do you have any suggestions on how to deal with moles also?”



Thanks for your question. Beer is an effective bait for slugs, but I have never heard of it used on grubs. Last year we had lots of rain, right around the time that my strawberries were turning red. Nothing is more disturbing than picking a strawberry and finding a slug burrowed inside! I set stale beer in a saucer, level with the surface of the soil. The slugs were lured in and drowned. I cleaned and refreshed the saucer every two or three days depending on how many slugs were there. Handpicking slugs also works well. Typically they feed in the early morning hours, so I would go out just after sunrise and drop the buggers into a yogurt container filled with soapy water. Other folks put down boards in the garden (they like to hide there) or use cantaloupe rinds face down where they'll also congregate. Many can be disposed of easily and without too much yuck-factor.

As far as grubs go, I'll recommend Milky Spore powder, a bacterium that the Japanese grub will ingest as it feeds in the lawn. The bacteria reproduce inside the grub's gut and usually kill it in a week or two. As the grub decomposes it will release even more bacteria, thereby killing even more grubs. So on and so forth. It may take a few years for populations of grubs to decrease but once in the soil the bacteria will last for years. Apply when the soil temperature reaches 65 degrees or more, during a period of active feeding in summer or early fall. Since grubs are a food source for moles, fewer grubs will likely cut down on mole populations as well. Less grubs may also mean fewer holes in the lawn from skunks who are looking for dinner. Milky Spore is registered with the EPA and is reported safe for people, pets, wildlife, beneficials and the like. I hope this advice helps!

Orchard pests

Walter is a home orchardist and also has a question about pests. “I have pears, apples, plums and nectarine trees. How can I keep raccoons, possums, squirrels and skunks away from my fruit trees? When the trees mature, they raid the trees and take bites out of the apples and other fruit, and then leave the fruits on the ground with one or two bites in the fruits. Any advice would be truly appreciated.

How frustrating to wait for your fruit to mature, only to have it eaten. I consulted my favorite orchardist, Michael Phillips, by way of his book, “The Holistic Orchard,” to get some answers for you in terms of these pests and birds which might also be causing some of the havoc. One idea I thought that sounded interesting is blocking access to the trunk so that the animals can't climb up. Wrapping the trunk in aluminum roof flashing up to four feet is reportedly enough to deter raccoons and squirrels. Spreading some gooey tangle trap on plastic just above the flashing doubles the punch. Squirrels can jump from tree, though, but reportedly like a quick get away, and steer away from areas with tall vegetation (news to me!!) so perhaps letting the grass grow up a bit near harvest may help.

As far as deterrents go, I am wondering about those fake owls that you often see at pick-your-own orchards. It may be worth a shot to install one of those. The same would go for the big scare-eye balloons. Usually with these type of deterrents, it's critical to move them often so that they don't merely become part of the scenery, but actually scare the pest away: think predator/prey.

Hanging artificial fruit prior to harvest to the point that the culprit bird gets sick of trying to peck something inedible may also be worth a try. Some people even leave them up all year long! And when in doubt, I always try predator urine. Back in the days of having infants in my household, you would often see a diaper hanging in an onion bag in my orchard to keep animal thugs out. I guess creativity comes into play. Good luck.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

Summer gas shortage may affect plans...



LETTERS

Support the Green Future Act

Dear editor,

We noticed the Sentinel's article on April 29 entitled “Earth Day Celebrated by Beautifying Belchertown.” We are 6th graders at Fort River School in Amherst. We are glad to see that Belchertown has recognized Earth Day and attempted to help the planet by getting more people involved in picking up trash and saving energy and materials. We would like to thank the Belchertown Energy and Sustainability Committee for this.

We are writing to you because we are also interested in stopping climate change and we are working on a campaign to pass the Green Future Act in Massachusetts. Right now, we are focusing on getting more elected officials to co-sponsor the act. We would like to thank the current local cosponsors of the act: Representative Mindy Domb, Senator Jo Comerford, and

Representative Susannah M. Whipps. We hope that more members of the legislature will follow in their footsteps and turn this bill into a law.

To the people who took the Earth Day advice in the paper: the Green Future Act is a great place to go next. The Green Future Act is a bill in the Massachusetts legislature that aims to fund the drive for net-zero emissions in the coming decades. Every person who decides to speak out in favor of this campaign is making a difference. We can change Massachusetts for the better!

Sincerely,

Ashwin Venkataraman
Gideon Antonowicz
Noah Bedolla-Davis
Fort River Elementary School
70 South East Street
Amherst, MA 01002

Stormwater utility inequity

Letter to the editor

One of the many points of this “utility” that needs to be addressed is the burden that has been put on Farms in town. Mr. Williams stated that this fee is charged so the more developed land is charged appropriately (not verbatim). Large homes with paved driveways, concrete swimming pools on 40,000 square foot lots received bills of between \$40 to \$60. Farms and homes with dirt driveways and acres of land surrounding them have received bills over \$1,000 being charged for Agricultural Buildings etc. Yes, farms have sheds and barns for feed and livestock but they also have acres of land with soils that filter and regenerate Stormwater. Most of the people receiving larger bills do not have water discharged into the town sewer lines. Properties are

charged even when they do not discharge water off of their land. This is not fair. We are a right to farm community and agriculture should not bear the burden of this fee. Properties are charged even when they do not discharge water off of their land. This is not fair. There are no surrounding towns with this fee and there is no reason that this cannot be taken from the general fund, it is 0.6% of the budget. Before saying what are we going to cut? Schools, police, fire etc. Take a look at what those departments had to pay already, the school department over \$4,000. If the money is this tight maybe the department heads with huge salaries should forgo their 4.8% raise not burden the taxpayers of this town.

Tracy Mahue

GUEST COLUMN

History Matters

History Matters is a biweekly feature courtesy of The Grateful American Book Prize, which is given to children's books that emphasize the importance of American history.

May 1 to May 15

JOHN GRIMALDI AND DAVID BRUCE SMITH
Guest columnists

On May 5, 1961, Navy Commander Alan Bartlett Shepard Jr. became the first American in space. It was just a 15-minute mission, memorable to the nation, but too late to outwit the competition. Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin astounded the world when he orbited the earth, once, in the Vostok 1.

Shepard's Freedom 7 capsule, however, foreshadowed America's dominance; less than a decade later, the Apollo 11 mission “silenced” the Russians, and catapulted Neil Armstrong, Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin, and Michael Collins to the moon.

Shepard was ranked fifth to walk the lunar surface after the Apollo 14 mission.

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends “Light This Candle: The Life and Times of Alan Shepard,” by Neal Thompson.

Transcontinental railroads

The American Revolution was an unexpected victory for the colonists. They won an immense land with a myriad of perks and perils, but the only way to traverse its

See HISTORY MATTERS, page 7 •

Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

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SENTINEL

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Belchertown Police Log

Editor's note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the Belchertown Police log and arrests for the weeks of April 21 through April 27. The information was provided by a member of the police department based on the review of the detailed log summary. This feature is designed to provide context and explanation to some of the calls police respond to every day. Of the 315 calls police responded to, there were 11 incidents, one accident, seven arrest/summons and 12 citations.

ARRESTS/SUMMONS

Friday, April 23

4:42 p.m. – A 17-year-old Three Rivers juvenile was issued a summons for driving with a suspended license and speeding. An officer monitoring traffic on Franklin St which is a 35 mph zone, had radar on and a vehicle drove by displaying 61 mph. The officer pulled into traffic, approached the vehicle. The officer spoke with the driver of the vehicle and found their license showed the status as suspended and dispatch confirmed that. The officer was informed their license was suspended. The owner took possession of the vehicle and the operator was issued a citation.

Saturday, April 24

12:53 p.m. – A 26-year-old Belchertown man was issued a summons for speeding and unlicensed operation. An officer was travelling westbound on Federal St by orchard hill when they reported seeing a vehicle traveling in the opposite direction going 83 mph in a 55 zone. The driver turned around take a left onto Two Pond Rd, the officer located the subject at the end of the cul-de-sac. The driver said their license expired in Pennsylvania and unable to get one in Massachusetts. The license was suspended in December and there was also no proof of insurance. The vehicle was towed. The plate was seized and put into evidence.

1:42 p.m. – Kurt Norwood, 57, of 91 Turkey Hill Rd, Belchertown was arrested on a warrant and charges of operating under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a vehicle, failing to stop/yield

and possession of open container in a vehicle. An officer travelling south on Daniel Shay's Highway was entering the intersection of Rt 202 and 9, when a vehicle took right from Federal St through North Main St without stopping for red light. The intersection was heavily congested. The officer activated their lights and the vehicle pulled over. The operator had glassy bloodshot eyes. As they spoke with the passenger, the officer observed the driver drinking from a bottle. A relative went and took the bottle away, then gave it to the officer. It was discovered the operator had a warrant out. A field sobriety test was done and the person was unsteady on their feet. The operator was transported to station where they were booked. They clerk was later contacted and the individual was released.

Monday April 26

8:42 p.m. – A 43-year-old West Hampton man was issued a summons for an uninsured vehicle and an unregistered vehicle. An officer was patrolling State St when they got a call to respond for a report of a male party behind the wheel of a parked vehicle was unconscious. The officer responded to the area and found a vehicle at a business. It was reported a male party with a mask on their head tilted back. The party woke up and rolled down their window. The party declined medical attention and reported that they just bought the vehicle. Ambulance personnel checked on the party just in care. The person reported to the officer they didn't realize the plates weren't their own. A towing company was called to take care of the vehicle, there was no proof of registration nor did the person have insurance. They were issued summons accordingly.

ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS

Wednesday April 21

3:05 p.m. – An officer responded to an apartment complex for a report of vandalism to a resident's vehicle parked in the lot. There was damage to the passenger's side door consistent to another car door striking it. The resident wanted the incident documented.

Thursday, April 22

11:38 a.m. – An officer spoke to individual about an incident at their workplace.

The incident reported to human resources department. The party wanted it documented but didn't want to go forward with charges. The officer spoke with the manager at the company who reported the situation would be handled internally.

Friday, April 23

10:31 a.m. – An officer responded to the Clapp Memorial Library for report of vandalism. The officer spoke with the reporting party who said they arrived at work to find the recently sprouted daffodils damaged. They were cut and stepped on. Photos were taken and there are no other details available.

5:28 p.m. – Officer spoke with resident regarding their firearm renewal. The renewal was denied and the resident needed to transfer ownership of the firearms.

5:59 p.m. – Officers responded to assist Belchertown fire and paramedics.

Saturday, April 24

10:47 a.m. – Officers responded to a residence on Underwood St concerning property discarded. The resident reported illegal dumping on their property at the corner of Dressel Ave and State St. There were tires dumped onto the property. There are no suspects at this time.

4:32 p.m. – Officers are pursuing an active investigation involving child pornography.

6:13 p.m. – Officers responded to Old Enfield Rd with an ambulance after a report a person bitten by dog. The person reported they were walking with leashed dog and an unleashed dog ran up to the two and began biting the walker's dog. The person suffered injuries and was transported to the hospital by relative. Animal control was notified.

11:41 p.m. – An officer responded to a residence to check on the wellbeing of a child due to allegations of the child not being cared for.

Sunday, April 25

4:32 p.m. – An officer responded to a residence regarding concerns about the caller's neighbors.

Tuesday, April 27

9:32 a.m. – A party called station reporting suspicious activity at a business. They were inquiring about buying something

from the business. Later that day, someone who claimed to be relative of the party attempted to pick up and pay for the transaction twice and failed. The person said they paid but never received the items and the business owner got a call saying the card used by the alleged relative was used fraudulently. The owner attempted to call the original caller. The matter is under investigation.

4:30 p.m. – Officers responded to an accident on Federal St and North St. At the intersection, a vehicle attempted to turn left onto North St and a second vehicle failed to yield. The second vehicle collided with the first vehicle. There was damage to the front end of the second vehicle and damage to the rear of the first. Both vehicles were towed from the scene.

Granby Police Log

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 143 calls for the week of April 23 through April 29. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. All information is provided by the Granby Police Department.

Friday, April 23

9:35 a.m. – Officers investigated an identity theft report. The incident is still under investigation.

2:36 p.m. – Officers investigate two car accident on Pleasant St. Minor injuries were reported.

3:15 p.m. – Officers investigated an identity theft report. The incident is still under investigation.

Tuesday, April 27

9:32 a.m. – Officers investigated a motor vehicle accident on West State St and Pleasant St. The operator struck a utility pole and caused damage.

Wednesday, April 28

4:48 p.m. – Officers investigated two car accident on West State St. No injuries were reported.

11:08 p.m. – Officers investigated a motor vehicle accident on New Ludlow Rd and South St. The vehicle sustained damage after hitting a deer.

HISTORY MATTERS • from page 6

complex vastness was to join a wagon train. It was a complicated and difficult crossing that many did not survive.

Then, on May 10, 1869, everything changed; two railroads completed the task of laying the tracks from "sea to shining sea." The presidents of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads met at Promontory, Utah to drive the last spike into the rails of the nation's first transcontinental railway.

Seven years earlier, land grants and loans from Congress had equipped them with the fiscal flexibility to build, but according to History.com, "In their eagerness for land, the two lines built right past each other, and the final meeting place had to be renegotiated."

To learn more about how the West was subdued, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends "Full Steam Ahead: The Race to Build a Transcontinental Railroad," by Rhoda Blumberg.

Lewis and Clark

In order to determine what it would require to mollify a newly acquired, undomesticated expanse of land, President Jefferson determined that a survey was imperative; he selected two explorers, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, to manage the mission.

America was just over 21-years-old, but the Louisiana Purchase transaction suddenly added 828,000 acres, and the equivalent of approximately 15 states.

Lewis and Clark started their journey in St. Louis with

55 men on May 14, 1804.

According to History.com, "The expedition traveled up the Missouri River in a 55-foot-long keelboat and two smaller boats. In November, Toussaint Charbonneau, a French-Canadian fur trader accompanied by his young Native American wife, Sacagawea, joined the expedition as an interpreter. The group wintered in present-day North Dakota before crossing into present-day Montana, where they first saw the Rocky Mountains.

They met up with the Shoshone Indians when they reached Colorado, crossed the Clearwater and Snake rivers in canoes, and followed the Columbia River to the Pacific Ocean on Nov. 8, 1805.

Two and a half years later, the expedition returned, in triumph, to St. Louis with 33 men. They had mapped out new lands and brought back journals about the Indian tribes they encountered; scientific notes of the flora and fauna they encountered, and a claim to the Oregon Territory.

For more information, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends "Sacajawea," by Joseph Bruchac.



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■ SENIORS

Belchertown Council on Aging May updates

BELCHERTOWN – The Council on Aging reports the following updates.

Let’s get moving again – together, in person and outside

Beginning Tuesday, May 4, two exercise classes will be offered in person. The building remains closed, so these classes will be held outside, weather permitting. Instructors will determine the day of class if it is to be held, and if not, participants will be notified via automated call within a half hour of the start time of that class.

Important to note: There will be no access to the inside of the building. No access to bathrooms, exercise equipment, water bubblers, etc. Those in attendance MUST wear a mask at all times, keep proper six foot-spacing, bring their own water, and any items to provide personal comfort, like a small towel, or large hat.

The BCOA will provide hand sanitizer and folding chairs for support during exercise. Chairs must be sanitized with provided spray before returning to their holding location. Hand weights and exercise accessories can be borrowed from the Senior Center, and brought with participants for each class. These will need to be signed out by each participant and returned when the building reopens. Please contact Katy for more information about borrowing equipment.

A new or updated annual exercise waiver must be signed in advance of attending class. Waivers are being mailed to everyone listed on the attendance sheet when the building closed. They can also be picked up by the front door of the center and dropped in the secure blue box to the left of the door.

These programs are suitable for anyone at any physical level, and can be done at one’s own pace. All experience levels welcome from beginner to expert and individuals are encouraged to join safely outside in the side parking lot, until exercise can be offered again within the building.

Class: Healthy Bones and Balance
When: Tuesday and Thursday
Time: 9:45 to 10:45 a.m.

Linda will be leading Healthy Bones and Balance class which is designed to increase strength, mobility, flexibility, and balance. Those wishing can still exercise at home by watching the recorded version offered by RSVP - Retired Senior Volunteer Program here <https://youtu.be/Gs3GFI8hnz8>.

Class: Tai Chi
When: Tuesday and Friday
Time: 11:15 a.m. in-person, 3 p.m. via Zoom.

Ljuba will be offering two Tai Chi classes every Tuesday and Friday. Class held outside at the BCOA will be at 11:15 a.m. and Zoom instruction for those who prefer, or in case of class cancellation will remain at 3 p.m.

Tai Chi is a gentle, slow-paced, graceful exercise routine that gives a full-bodied workout, improving over time: muscle strength, joint movement, flexibility, and balance. The hour-long routine provides additional short components: brain balancing- simple movements that increase memory, focus, and balance; immunity-stimulating physical points that strengthen immunity; Relaxation-reducing tension and adding physical calm and sense of well-being; and stimulation to key body systems.

Hearing aid batteries available

The center has received donations of hearing aid batteries that we are happy to pass on to those who can benefit from them.

Please call Laurene at 413-323-0420 ext.505 to see if she has the type you use.

Nutrition supplement program

The Social Services/Outreach Department can help via their Nutritional Supplement Program.

This program which will remain available until funds are completely expended can be accessed by providing a physician’s authorization specifying the need for said supplements. They will be purchased for you, and their cost covered, freeing up more of your monthly budget. For more information, please call Laurene Kendall, Social Services and Outreach Coordinator at 413-323-0420 ext. 505, email her at lkendall@belchertown.org, or complete and clip this and send to Attn: Laurene Kendall BCOA 60 State St. Belchertown, MA 01007.

Belchertown Council on Aging to participate in the Massachusetts Bar Association’s free virtual 2021 Elder Law Program

Local seniors can learn about Elder Law issues at a free virtual event hosted by the Belchertown Council on Aging during May. The event is part of the statewide Elder Law Education Program presented by the Massachusetts Bar Association. It corresponds with the publication of the

revised and expanded “2021 Elder Law Education Guide,” which is available online at the MBA’s companion website, www.MassLawHelp.com.

Among the topics discussed at virtual events throughout the commonwealth this year are veteran affairs financial benefits, how to protect your home and assets, power of attorney and health care proxies, reverse mortgages, homestead, life estates and tax exemptions, Medicare/Medicaid changes, COVID-19 resources, and alternatives to nursing home care.

The Elder Law Education Program matches attorneys from the MBA and the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA) with more than 50 councils on aging or senior centers throughout the state to make free presentations about the law.

Volunteer attorneys have participated in the Elder Law Education Program since 1987. Past topics have touched on the Homestead Act, estate planning and long-term health insurance. The program is presented with the generous assistance and continued collaboration of the Massachusetts Chapter of NAELA.

As of the printing of this newsletter, the date and time of this event have yet to be determined. For more information about the presentation being offered by Attorney Benjamin Coyle of Bacon and Wilson, contact Katy at 323-0420 x 501 or kmartin@belchertown.org. An invite will be sent once the virtual link is provided.

May meals

- 6 Grilled Chicken Salad
- 7 Blueberry French Toast
- 10 Chicken Cordon Bleu
- 11 Stuffed Peppers
- 12 Tuna, Potato and Three Bean Salads
- 13 Chicken Marsala
- 14 Fish with Crumb Topping
- 17 Chicken
- 18 Hot Dog
- 19 Taco Salad
- 20 Pork Chop
- 21 Salisbury Steak
- 24 Penne and Meatsauce
- 25 pork Roast
- 26 BBQ Chicken
- 27 Turkey Chef Plate
- 28 Turkey Divan
- 31 Closed

National Day of Prayer

BELCHERTOWN – On Thursday, May 6 at 7 p.m. there will be an observance of the National Day of Prayer on the Belchertown Common. The event is being sponsored by the churches of Belchertown and is part of a national event during which communities across America gather to pray.

A national call to prayer is rooted in the history of this nation. One of George Washington’s early official acts was a Thanksgiving proclamation, which read in part, “It is the duty of the nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits and favor.” Abraham Lincoln said, “It is the duty of nations, as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God.”

Prayer is a plea for divine help. As Pastor Emmanuel Haqq of Christ Community Church put it, “Prayer is the polar opposite of pride. The proud are self-sufficient and see no need to plead for God’s Favor, while prayer is an acknowledgement that all we need for body and soul is a gift of God.”

The fear and uncertainty of this world will undoubtedly draw many to pray.

The history of the National Day of Prayer dates back to April 30, 1863, when President Lincoln issued a proclamation. He wrote, “We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven. We have been preserved, these many years, in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers, wealth and power, as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God.

We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us! It behooves us then to humble ourselves before the offended Power, to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness.”

On 1922 Congress passed a law calling on each president to set aside an appropriate day as a National Day of

See PRAYER, page 9 •

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■ GRANBY

Town of Granby Clerk Reminders

GRANBY – The town election is on Monday, May 17 at Granby Jr. Sr. High School and polls will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Please note the clerk's office will still be practicing social distancing as voters enter the polls, the clerk's office is asking the voters to please be considerate and wear masks, and if voters prefer to use their own pen, please use black ink.

Parking is in the back by the gymnasium and enter in the gymnasium doors. Checking in for elections goes by your precinct number. You can view the specimen ballots at the following locations:

1. Town Hall Annex
2. C.O.A.
3. Granby Public Library
4. Granby Jr. Sr. High School
5. Old Library
6. Granby Post Office
7. Town Website at www.granby-ma.gov

Last day to file for early voting mail-in ballot will be Tuesday, May 11.

You can download the Mail-In-Ballot application on our website www.granby-ma.gov you may scan it over to the clerk's email to save time at kkellyregan@granby-ma.gov, or mail it to Town Clerk, 215 B West State St, Granby, MA 01033, or drop your application off in the drop box at the Town Hall Annex. Once the application is received the ballot will be mailed to you, any applications received after May 11 will be null and void and the voter will have to vote in person.

However, after May 11 with a valid reason for not being able to go to the polls on election day you can set up an appointment with the Town Clerk to file an absentee ballot in-person, last day to file for an absentee

ballot in-person will be Friday, May 14 until 5 p.m.

Do you know what precinct you are? Not sure call the town clerk's office or look on the web site www.granby-ma.gov under department of town clerk.

If you did not answer your 2021 town census, you may be considered as an "inactive voter." To avoid any problems at the polls please call the town clerk's office to verify your voting status.

Are you signed up for "Code Red?"

"Code Red" is when you receive important information pertaining to our community on your phone. If you wish to receive such messages, please consider signing up by going to the town website under Emergency Notifications.

It's not too late to get your dog licenses:

Due to the Town Hall Buildings still being closed to the public the late charge period has been extended through May 31.

The cost is \$6 for spayed /neutered, puppies and senior dogs over the age of 10 years, and all others the cost is \$15, to avoid a \$25 late charge fee please license by May 31.

You can license in-person by making an appointment with the Town Clerk, or license through the mail.

If you choose to mail or use the drop box, please include a copy of the rabies vaccination, or call the clerk's office for verification, include a self-addressed envelope with two stamps, a check made payable to the Town of Granby, and mail to Town Clerk, 215 B West State Street Granby, MA.

Questions or concerns can be directed to Kathy Kelly-Regan at the Granby Town Hall Annex, 467-7178.

PRAYER • from page 8

Prayer. On May 5, 1988, President Reagan signed a bill, passed unanimously by congress, making the first Thursday of May the National Day of Prayer. Millions of Americans, in their own cities and towns

and representing all faiths will be praying with those gathering on the Belchertown Common.

The group will be following guidelines set by the Quabbin Health District. Mask wearing and social distancing will be enforced.

MacDuffie School responds to need for summer program

GRANBY - The MacDuffie School is excited to announce that it has opened registration for the 2021 summer camp season. After weeks of receiving inquiries from the community about the need for summer programming, MacDuffie has reinstated its summer program to serve the needs of local families as they navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We know that the community continues to struggle to manage complicated schedules during the pandemic," said Steve Griffin, MacDuffie's head of school. "We also know the developmental value of interpersonal interaction for kids of all ages. Given the success we have had being open in person this school year, we want to reopen our camp program to support the town of Granby, and families in all the surrounding communities that we serve."

The MacDuffie School will be offering a coeducational, full-day summer program for students entering grades 1 to 8. The program will be offered in six, one-week sessions starting Monday, June 28, to be held on the beautiful, 250-acre MacDuffie School campus in Granby. To further accommodate busy schedules, the program will also offer before and

aftercare. Camp runs from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.; before-care begins at 7:30 a.m. and runs until the beginning of regular camp programming, and after-care runs from the end of day camp until 5 p.m.

Participants will participate in programs including coding, creative writing, culinary arts, dance, drama, land sports, outdoor adventures, science, and visual arts, enjoy lunch prepared by the trained chefs on staff at MacDuffie's own SAGE Dining Services, and finish the afternoon with a variety of afternoon activities and field trips.

The MacDuffie School is a boarding and day school for boys and girls in grades 6 to 12. The MacDuffie School has been an active participant in the Pioneer Valley community for 131 years, the last 10 of those years in Granby.

"Our program leaders are passionate and experienced," said Tina Hamel, Summer Programs Coordinator and Science Department Chair. "and we all look forward to creating a fun and supportive environment for your child to thrive this summer!"

For more information please visit summer.macduffie.org, or contact Ms. Hamel at Summer@MacDuffie.org.

Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club

BELCHERTOWN – A monthly book club for lovers of high fantasy, hard science fiction, fable, far future, and all of the speculative fiction options at the Clapp Memorial Library in Belchertown.

The group meets at 6 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Copies of the monthly pick will be available at the Circulation Desk in advance of the

meeting. Until the building re-opens all meetings will be via Google Meet. Email tmannino@cwmmars.org for the meeting link.

Upcoming picks:
May 25 - The City in the Middle of the Night / Charlie Jane Anders
June 22 - The Stars are Legion / Kameron Hurley



Mother's Day is Sunday, May 9th! *Dickinson Farms & Greenhouse*

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■ EDUCATION



COURTESY PHOTOS
Belchertown High School senior Emma Buffone will be going to Assumption University in the fall.

Belchertown seniors featured in Q and A

STAFF REPORT

Emma Buffone

BELCHERTOWN – Belchertown High School Principal Christine Vigneux has begun featuring a member of the Class of 2021 in a question and answer survey about their tenure in the school.

Each of the seniors featured decorated a cap sharing their future plans and they have also answered questions about their experiences at “the Nest,” the school community of Belchertown Public Schools.

These seniors will be featured in the Sentinel as well.

What are your future plans?
I will be attending Assumption University for the next four years and my major will be in nursing!
What is your favorite memory from the Nest?
I think my favorite memory from the Nest would have to have been my junior year Spirit Assembly. It was the last time our whole class came together, and I’ve really missed times like those.
What advice do you have for our younger Orioles?

Do not waste a single moment. You will lose friends, and gain some new ones and that is totally okay, change is always good. Get involved and go enjoy the most out of all of the experiences you can. When they tell you it goes by fast, believe them!
What is your proudest moment as an Oriole?
My proudest moment would have been getting my first acceptance letter. It made me so excited for my future and made me realize that good and exciting things were coming.

UMass Music, Dance ensembles to present end of semester concerts

AMHERST – The UMass Amherst Department of Music and Dance will host a number of virtual performances to mark the end of the spring 2021 semester. A partial listing of these virtual events is below – unless noted otherwise, all events can be viewed free via the department’s new YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/umassmusicanddance.

Sunday, May 9, at 2 p.m.– Vocal Jazz Ensemble

The event is free – concertgoers must bring their own chair or blanket and observe social distancing guidelines (six feet apart) and wear a face covering. Attendance will be limited to 150 as per current state guidelines.

A complete listing of events, including student recitals being streamed to YouTube, is available at www.umass.edu/music/events.

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CollegeNOTES

Rachel Barroso makes Goodwin Dean's List for Fall 2020

EAST HARTFORD, CT -- Rachel Barroso has earned a spot on the Goodwin University Dean's List for Fall 2020. Rachel, a student from Belchertown, is one of 1,128 students to make the Dean's List, reserved for those who demonstrate great academic performance. Dean's List inclusion requires a student to earn a minimum 3.5 GPA, the equivalent of an A- average, during a given academic session. The student must also be enrolled in a minimum of six academic credits to qualify. Goodwin University in East Hartford, Connecticut, is an innovative learning community that empowers hard-working students to become sought-after employees.

Local residents make Dean's List at Wentworth Institute of Technology

BOSTON – The following local students have made the Dean's List at Wentworth Institute of Technology for the Fall 2020 semester.

- Jeffrey Pandolfi of Belchertown
- Nora Elisabeth Bernashe of Granby

Founded in 1904, Wentworth Institute of Technology is a nationally ranked university offering career-focused education through bachelor's degree programs in areas such as engineering, architecture, computer science, applied mathematics, business management, computer networking, construction management, and design.

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi inducts new members

BATON ROUGE, LA -- The following people recently were initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

Kylie Bane of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Lauren Bean of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Emma Garber of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Krishangee Gauree of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Zachary Glanz of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Margaret Harrington of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Kanon Kobata of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Haruka Kushida of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Yael Liebman of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Nicole Montana of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Stuart Remensnyder of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Nat Ross of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Julie Roy of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Syed Asjad Ali Zaidi of Amherst at University of Massachusetts
Dale Jones of Belchertown at University of Massachusetts
Seth Diamond of Amherst at University

of Southern Maine

They are among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10% of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10% of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Area resident on Bridgewater dean's list

BRIDGEWATER - The following area residents were named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Bridgewater State University:

Granby resident Jordyn Shepard.

Granby student named to New York Tech Presidential Honor List

OLD WESTBURY, NY – Ler Simoneau of Granby was named to the Fall 2020 Presidential Honor List at New York Institute of Technology. Simoneau was one of more than 1,300 students recognized. To qualify for the Presidential Honor List, a student must achieve a minimum semester GPA of 3.7 and complete at least 12 credit hours without any incomplete grades.

Belchertown student named to Honor Roll at TECCA

WALPOLE – TEC Connections Academy, the Commonwealth's largest virtual school, today announced that Deen Bayou of Belchertown has been named to the school's Honor Roll of academic excellence and recognized for maintaining a high grade average in the previous semester. TECCA serves over 2,500 students from across Massachusetts in grades K-12 and employs more than 100 teachers and support personnel at its Walpole learning center.

DCF seeks volunteers

REGION – Volunteers are needed from Western Massachusetts to help review cases involving children who are placed in the custody of the state. The Foster Care Review Unit makes decisions regarding children who are placed in foster care for six months or longer, assessing how well their needs are being met and what progress has been made toward establishing them in a permanent living situation. A Volunteer from the Community is one member of the three-person panels that make these decisions. Foster Care Reviews typically last 30 to 90 minutes and are being conducted remotely during the pandemic. Volunteers need to be 18 years or older and must participate in pre-service training that is currently being conducted remotely. For an application and further information, please contact Lashanda Stone at Lashanda.Stone@Mass.Gov .



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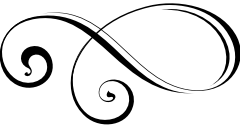
Belchertown couple celebrates 60 years together

BELCHERTOWN – Michael and Virginia Dordine celebrate 60 years of marriage on May 6.

They married in 1961, that's 21,915 days together. The two have five children, 10 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Michael and Virginia Dordine celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on May 6.



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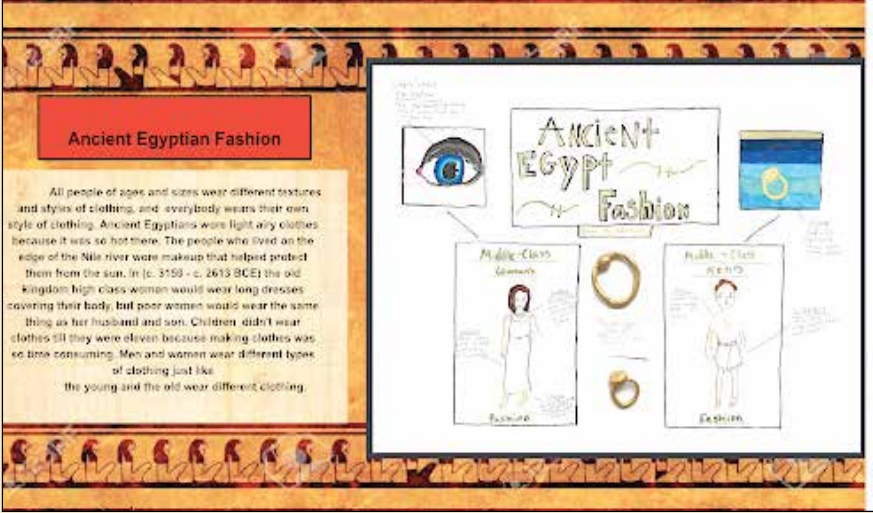
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(Virtual) Night at the Museum



COURTESY PHOTOS

For Addison Di Bona, her Egypt project was on fashion in ancient Egypt. Di Bona said Egyptians wore light airy clothes due to the heat in Egypt.

EGYPT • from page 1

“With that in mind, students created a variety of written responses, drawings, and physical structures in order to understand better one of history’s longest running cultures.”

Students learned about the lives of the pharaohs and the common people of

Egypt, they learned about the geography of Egypt and the role of the Nile on its civilization, as well as the religious beliefs and ideas of death and afterlife.

In years past, the exhibit would be open to the students and families to view in person, but this year the teachers compiled a slide show presentation for students and their families to view from home.



In her project Lilli Sherwood wrote about the plants and animals of ancient Egypt. She said these animals were specialized to the areas of the Nile River and the desert.

CHIEF • from page 1

for what we’re trying to do in the short and long term?”

Ingram proposed potentially introducing a mentorship program for the call force.

“I would look into if there’s a mentoring program and start having the call force try to do coverage to come in when the full-time staff is out on call,” said Ingram. “Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn’t. A lot of folks don’t work in town anymore, but if there some folks around try to do it that way. Then have a really good robust mutual aid response from the surrounding communities as well.”

Selectboard Chair Gail Gramarossa asked Ingram about how he would manage staff to deal with stress in the department after encountering traumatic situations.

Ingram said he has personally experienced high stress events and emphasized the need to get people help as soon as possible.

“It’s super important to get help as soon as you can, whether it’s through a private agency specifically working with first responders, there’s Mass. fire academy chaplains which I’ve used in Leverett,” said Ingram. “It’s my job as a leader to make sure that we bring folks in before something happens and talked about how to deal with that type of stress with the things that we unfortunately have to come across.”

Current Fire Chief Ed Bock is set to retire on May 20 and Town Administrator Gary Brougham said there is interest in having some overlap time between the Bock and Ingram. On Monday, May 3, Brougham told the Selectboard he would begin conversations regarding Ingram’s state date and contract this week.

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EDUCATION

Belchertown High School Q3 Honor Roll

BELCHERTOWN – The following students received honors or high honors in the last marking period.

Grade 12 High Honors

Abigail Akodu, Ethan Andrews, Emma Buffone, Katherine Calnan, Elizabeth Charron, Joah Choi, Allison Cote, John Cowles, Aadon Crisostomo, Nicholas DaCosta, Lauren Daponde, Juliana Dennehy, Nathan Dragon, Meredith Dulak, Austin Endelos, Farrah Forkey, Megan Gilman, Sarah Hasegawa-Howard, Kelly Hislop, Sara Howie, Julia Hubbard, David Hulmes, Cole Irving, Sara LaFever, Cody Lambert, Ruby Langlois, Jordan Lanoue, Sophie Laramee, Erin Lucas, Daniel Mahaney, Abigail McBride, Angela Meehan, Ashley Messier, Maya Monteiro, Sienna Murch, Cassandra Roy, Matthew Roy, Victoria Rybicki, Brooke Samborski, Benjamin Schrenzel, Owen Sedlacek, Makenzie Smith, Sarrina Smith, Bella St. George, Matthew Stelmokas, Zachary Stowe-Alekman, Andersen Struzziero, Karl Underwood, Olivia Vogel, Thaddeus Wegrzyn, Danae Weldon, Ryan Zawistowski and Stephanie Zepke.

Grade 12 Honors

Laura Bellefleur, Cameron Bramucci, Alexandra Brooks, Daniel Chrzanowski, Maxwell Clift, Kaleigh Cooper, Kylie Corbin, Shea Cunningham, Aidan Endress, Allen Gao, John Gelinas, Kendal Giverson, Olivia Golenski, Christopher Greene, Carlie Howe, Nicole Hubbard, William Kandar, Juliana Kopec, Meredith Medina, Timothy O’Connor, Matthew Pacheco, Rebecca Patel, James Peel, Chloe Pouliot, Kevin Reidy, Trinity Skutnik, Madison Smith, Emma Sotiropoulos, Griffin Weiss, Monet Williams, Samuel Winston and Jaden Wise.

Grade 11 High Honors

Christopher Adzima, Michael Alves, Madisyn Auclair, Lexi Bourgeois-Meausky, Caitlin Bradshaw, Amy Braese, Abigail Canale, Lydia Collins, Sarah Cormier, Ashley Fuhrmann, Bella Gagne, Hailey Garrow, Monica Gildea, Paige Ivey, Alyssa Keeler, Avery Klingensmith,

Morgan Knodler, Alexa LaFlamme, Annette Laporte, Skye Ljungberg, Caleigh McCormack, Olga Minina, Timothy Mitus, Sara Morley, Aiden Mugford, Andrew Pope, Laura Potter, Kiley Queiros, Saylor Reed, Tara Richards, Abigail Rivers, Ty Sayball-Wimmer, Gianna Scott, Sarah Sedlacek, Anthony Smith, Maya Sullivan, Timothy Terault, Thomas Vinagre and Elyssa Wrona.

Grade 11 Honors

Molly Berenson, Kiernan Corish, Dylan Duseau, Marjorie Faassen Dymond, Samuel Hunt, Alexina Laporte, Ryann Lauzier, Hunter LePage, Raymond Livengood, Erik Magner, Lauren Majerowski, Dominic Mancuso, Johnathan Martial, Amy Mas, Peyton McLaughlin, Christopher Misiaszek, Kassidy Morrisette, Trevor Mullen, Muiz Okuwobi, Sophia Poissant, Samuel Prefontaine, Nicholas Rivers, Victoria Ruscio, Eli Sayball-Wimmer, Emilia Swiech and Jessa Troy.

Grade 10 High Honors

Nicholas Adzima, Benjamin Anderson, Chelsea Bachmann-Delgado, Molly Bail, Ty Bogdanovich, Owen Charron, Lindsey Chrabasz, Olivia Condon, Lauren Cooper, Sierra Crisostomo, Ashley Cunningham, Cameron Dean, John DiNapoli, Jack Dragon, Amber Drummond, Peter Elias, Grace Filippelli, Eileen Fraga, Jacqueline Gatesman, Brandon Gilman, Janelle Gummesson, William Hill, Daniel Holden, Madeline Jaszek, Chloe Jenks, Despina Kofides, Isabella LaFlamme, Alannah Lavoie, Callan Martin, Stefania Mayo, Tyler McDonald, Abigail Menard, Grace Menard, Aidan Messier, Lauren Morris, Jacob Murch, Aida Name,

Abigail Olden, Nathaniel Oldenburg, Aayush Patel, Brady Perkins, Emma Piedade, Jamie Platt, Kayla Pogoda, Abigail Potter, Hannah Quesenberry, Tiana Rouleau, Hailey Smith, Kamryn Tellier, AJ Terry, Marie Willems, Emma Withers, Michelle Zaluga and Karlie Zych.

Grade 10 Honors

Trevor Adamson, D’Angelo Aponte,

Henry Audette, Joseph Baltazar, Riley Breen, Cameron Buley, Ashton Clark, Brody Dugger, Logan Edreich, Ryan Fernandes, Isabella Fraga, Brianna Gladu, James Green, Oliver Howe, Jackson Ingersoll, Andrew Knapp, Paige Lacroix, Paige Laplante, Filip Lasiuk, Joseph Mankowsky, Elias Marques, Carter Masse, Brady Moreau, Allison Pefaur, Lex Piwcio, Julia Richard, Zachary Rodrigues, Forrest Sherson, Hailey Smith, Laura Sotiropoulos, Aiden Torna, Madison Velozo, Nathan Wheeler, Connor White and Nathan White.

Grade 9 High Honors

Zoe Bate, Brooke Burrows, Riley Cardwell, Isabella Cauley, Isabella Cebula, Emalee Chaisson, Olivia Corbin, Ronald Cormier, Laura Cote, Victoria Damato, Andrew Daponde, Michaela Dubey, Delaney Duseau, Ellie Gelinas, Derek Gould, Georgia Greenough, Joshua Grillo, Sarah Hiersche, Kaley Howes, Rainer Kristensen, Parker Krol, Kamila Kwietniak, Olivia Lafayette, Adrianna Laneiro, Bethany Lavoie, Madysen LePage, Tanner Lockwood, Paige Magner, Mattingly Marques, Brielle Murray, Zoe Patten, Rylan Queiros, Olivia Rosati, Emily Roy, Jillian Scott, Ava Shea, Camden Skaggs, Ciara Smith, Violet Snook, Nico St. George, Victoria Sullivan, Sage Table, Daniel Thompson, Priscilla Thornhill, Cameron Ting, Megan Watts, Trevor Weiss, Maggie Williams and Kami Wlodyka.

Grade 9 Honors

Landon Andre, Conner Andrews, Sophia Aparviz, Jacob Avgoustakis, Logann Beaulieu, Natalie Bianco, Chloe Breton, Ellery Buckowski, Luke Cote, Jackson Couchon, Kaden Couture, Abigail Cramer, Christopher Daskam, Nathan Fernandes, Kasey Gibbons, Luke Giguere, Chloe Macaluso, Tyler Marino, Claudia Marques, Sarah O’Connor, Calahan Orzech, Henry Poissant, Dylan Potter, Ava Raines, Christopher Rivers, Karyna Rondeau, Audrey Sotiropoulos, Caiden St. Laurent, Lauren St. Peter, Brooke Stelmokas, Cheri Willems and Lucas Wojnas.

Amherst College jazz ensemble and jazz combos perform May 7

AMHERST – Members of the Jazz Performance Program at Amherst College, which includes two jazz combos and the jazz ensemble, or “ACJE,” perform on Friday, May 7, in Buckley Recital Hall, Arms Music Center, on the Amherst College Campus. Jazz Combos Hale-Bopp and Hyakutake perform starting at 7 p.m., followed by the Jazz Ensemble at 8:30 p.m. Both performances will be live-streamed through the Amherst College Music Department Website, and are free and open to the public.

All three groups perform a wide array of jazz compositions and arrangements from composers such as Duke Ellington, Charlie Parker, Stevie Wonder, and the 2021 McBride ’59 Jazz Commission Series composer Jen Allen. The ACJE premieres her new composition, “On the Precipice.”

For a complete listing of upcoming Amherst College Department of Music events, please visit us on the web: www.amherst.edu/academiclife/departments/music/events.

For further information please contact Alisa Pearson, Manager of Concert Programming, Production and Publicity, at 413/542-2195.



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REGION

Monson Arts Council spring art show opens May 15

House of Art galleries will follow COVID-19 guidelines

STAFF REPORT

MONSON – Monson Arts Council 27th Annual Art Exhibition and Sale will take place in the House of Art, 200 Main Street, Monson, and as an online Gallery from May 15 to May 30.

Sixty seven area artists have been selected by a jury of three outstanding professional artists to show 118 works of art in nine galleries. The show will be open Saturday and Sunday for three weekends from 12 p.m. to 5 pm. COVID-19 Guidelines will be followed in the House of Art. Complete information about the show, workshops, prizes, and guidelines is available online at www.monsonartscouncil.org/artshows.

About \$5,750 in cash prizes will be awarded on opening day to artists selected by the jury members with funds donated by Monson Savings Bank, a major sponsor of this exhibit since 2003 plus this year, two special donors have added to the awards offered.

Linda Lastoff, a pastel artist and frequent exhibitor in our shows has donated a \$250 award in memory of her parents — The Edward and Shirley Lastoff Memorial Prize. She will select the award.

Sandra Walsh, administrator of the Leo S. Walsh Foundation, has donated \$1500 for photography awards in memory of her sister, Sylvia Pyzocha. The Sylvia Pyzocha Awards for Outstanding Nature Photography will be selected by members



COURTESY PHOTO

Shauna Shane of Storrs, CT, Best of Show Winner in Monson's Spring Show 2019, will exhibit three works including this oil portrait, titled "Layover," in Monson's upcoming juried show.

of the jury.

Besides a "Best of Show" award for \$1,000, additional awards for painting, multi-dimensional art, graphic arts and photography will honor area artistic talent. Dan Moriarty of Monson Savings Bank selects "The President's Award," the Art Show Committee selects

a "Committee Choice Award." Moulton Insurance and anonymous donors sponsor a special award for "Outstanding Monson Artist" in the show.

Other sponsors include J Stolar Insurance Agency, Inc., WARE Radio, Roberts & Sons Printing, and Giclee Printing of New England. Turley

Publications is Media Sponsor. The Monson Cultural Council, representing the Massachusetts Cultural Council is sponsoring two workshops — in drawing and in poetry — during the show.

Jurors for the exhibit are:

Cynthia Consentino of Buckland, a ceramic artist who received a MFA from University of Massachusetts and has been recipient of awards by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, American Craft Council, The Society of Arts and Crafts, Berkshire Taconic and The Blanche E. Colman Artist Awards.

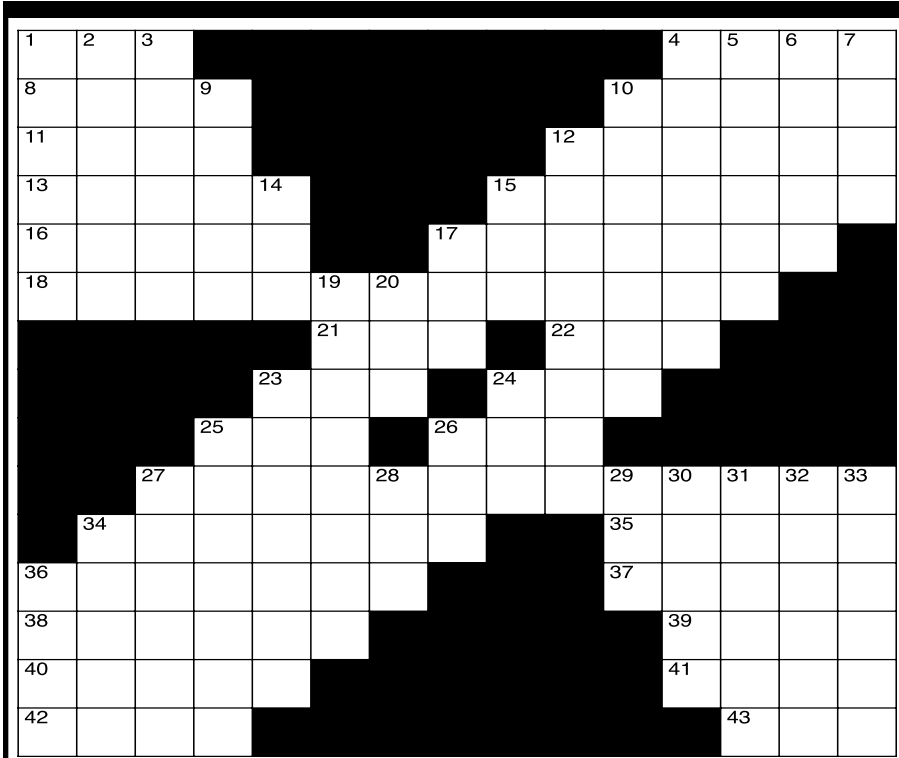
Erik Gehring, a freelance photographer who specializes in trees and natural landscapes. He is the Education Coordinator at the Hyde Park Art Association, and a past President of the Boston Camera Club. Erik. He also teaches at the Eliot School of Fine and Applied Arts in Boston.

Holly S. Murray, a graduate of Syracuse University, with a B.F.A. in painting and printmaking. She holds an M.F.A. from the University of Massachusetts, where she studied ceramics and photography. Her art is concerned with cultural and social issues. Her nationally traveling show "On the Home Front," an installation, documented family violence.

Galleries in the House of Art will be open May 15, 16, 22, 23, 29 and 30 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. All COVID-19 precautions will be followed. There will be light refreshments in a lawn tent on May 15.

Complete information and entry guidelines: www.monsonartscouncil.org.

Further Information: Coordinator David Dupuis – 413-813-5770, Publicist Maureen Solomon – 413-537-8206.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Engine additive
- 4. A hearty laugh
- 8. Restrain
- 10. Dried coconut kernels
- 11. Nefarious
- 12. Elderly
- 13. Central part of a church building
- 15. Throw into confusion
- 16. Intestinal
- 17. Qualities of being religious
- 18. Live up to a standard
- 21. Seize
- 22. Go quickly
- 23. Automated teller machine
- 24. Bowling necessity
- 25. One point east

- of due south
- 26. Japanese honorific
- 27. A way to induce sleep
- 34. Makes cash register rolls
- 35. A city in S Louisiana
- 36. Make more cheerful
- 37. Manicurist
- 38. Consents
- 39. Network of nerves
- 40. Mocking smile
- 41. It covers the body
- 42. Partner to pans
- 43. Perform in a play
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Beautiful

- 2. Polynesian island country
- 3. Shrub of the olive family
- 4. Self-governing Netherlands territory
- 5. Shared one's view
- 6. Tailless amphibians
- 7. Charge passengers must pay
- 9. Sound sheep make
- 10. Known for sure
- 12. Filled with unexpressed anger
- 14. Student (abbr.)
- 15. Criticize
- 17. Gathering place
- 19. Informal alliances
- 20. One's mother (British)
- 23. Landholder
- 24. Peter's last name
- 25. Parties
- 26. Title of respect
- 27. Red wine
- 28. Pearl Jam's debut
- 29. Shaft horsepower (abbr.)
- 30. Frosts
- 31. Cry of joy
- 32. Induces vomiting
- 33. Mother or father
- 34. Dal __: Musical navigation marker
- 36. Door fastener part

ATM • from page 1

"It is the strong recommendation that the town meeting be held full outdoors as a backup the hybrid model is to be considered the Board of Health wishes to cap the number of people indoors at 100," he said. "With the contingency that if the town enters the red again in the week of the town meeting the hybrid plan, if that is what gets selected, be abandoned for a fully outdoor meeting."

Selectboard Chair Gail Gramarossa said if there is an additional cost, the town should be able to be reimbursed for related to the CARES act funding.

Selectboard member Jen Turners said she is happy to hear that outdoors is the preference.

"I feel strongly that it should be outside," she said.

Selectboard member Jim Barry agreed.

"If we're only going to let 100 people in, I'm not sure that's worth the effort and angst, technical difficulties and potential problems," he said. "If you look at last year's town meeting season, most of our neighbors were outside, few did hybrids like I did."

Selectboard member Ed Boscher asked if the indoor option was acceptable or was completely ruled out.

"Our strong recommendation is outdoors, but we recognized people wanted some of it indoors that would be okay. That's why we talked about the 100-person cap to have the greatest level of protection

indoors," he said.

Gramarossa said she believe the outdoors may pose some challenges but moved to hold the meeting outside.

"We take into account making sure people can see and hear and have access to facilities and the staff will help us with logistics," she said.

Brougham asked if the board would like to utilize the services from Theatrix, a company which helped to put on last year's hybrid meeting.

"The significant cost in this is the audio-visual component," he said. "The other consideration is that the vendor who provided that serval has several other opportunities."


Gramarossa said she didn't necessarily see the need.

"Depending on how we're spread out with microphones, I don't know if I envision a big tv under the tent," Gramarossa said. "The Selectboard and others are at the head table, I would expect it would be difficult to mount a television like that in an outdoor setting."

Turner said she supported Theatrix at the meeting.

"I think about going to a concert or a football game having that extra screen just so people can see creates accessibility on all front," she said. "So I'm an advocate for having them there."

With three in favor and two opposed, the board opted for the town to investigate including Theatrix as part of the organization in the meeting.



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Spring Sportsreturn

GRANBY – After no action at all last year, Granby spring sports began last week. Teams were in full practice mode with a quick turnaround to games beginning this week. The spring season will be played until the end of June.



The Granby softball team discusses practice with their coach.



Autumn Sicard practices her pitching last week.



Madison Seaha sends a throw to first.



The Granby softball team does its final run of practice.

PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPOTOS.COM

STATE

MIAA approves modified rules for wrestling

GREGORY A. SCIBELLI
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – Though it came down to the last minute, the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association has approved modifications for high school wrestling that will allow for competition to take place during the spring season.

Last Friday, the MIAA Board of Directors held a special meeting to approve modifications to the sport after the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs officially cleared wrestling for Level 3 competition. Level 3 competition allows dual meets to take place.

Wrestling is normally a winter sport, so participation will ultimately be up to the individual schools. Some may or may not be participating due to numbers, especially with multiple sports going in the spring such as baseball, lacrosse, and track.

Like all other high school sports, the MIAA is requiring

wrestlers to wear face masks to participate. Wrestling is one of the most close contact sports that is offered for high schoolers, and officials deferred allowing the sport to take place in the last possible high school season in order to allow the vaccination effort to gain traction.

Among the highlighted rules for high school wrestling, masks are not only required for the participants, but all those involved, including coaches, facility personnel, and officials. Spectators will also likely be allowed in a limited capacity with indoor gathering numbers of the increase beginning on May 10.

While many wrestlers are used to participating in large tournaments on the weekend, that will not be the case. There also will not be any dual meet tournaments. Only team versus team duals meets are allowed during the spring season, and at the most, three teams are allowed to partici-

See **WRESTLING**, page 16 •

REGION

Tri-County legend Oliveira passes away

GREGORY A. SCIBELLI
gscibelli@turley.com

PALMER – With just a month to go before the season is set to begin, the Tri-County Baseball League, and the region at-large are mourning the loss of a league legend, as well as a Western Massachusetts Baseball Hall of Famer.

Karl Oliveira, who played in the Tri-County League for almost 40 years, passed away at the age of 57. When news of his passing began circulating last Monday, April 26, it was a shockwave throughout the entire Western Massachusetts baseball community, including his own team, and even his competition.

Oliveira’s legacy in the Tri-County League began when he was just 17-years-old. He made the Fenton’s of Amherst roster. He moved around the league for 10 years before coming to agreement for the St. Joseph’s Club to sponsor a Tri-County team, and St. Joseph was once again a part of the league after leaving it for nearly 20 years. Oliveira served as a player-manager for the team

and became an active participant in the league’s leadership, serving as the league’s secretary for many years.

St. Joseph’s has been a mainstay in the league since that time. Oliveira enjoyed the competition of the league as well as participating in other baseball in the region, including the Full Count League, which was eventually absorbed by Tri-County.

Following news of his passing, social media was flooded with comments from his teammates to his competition, one of them even calling Oliveira the “Godfather of Western Mass. Baseball.”

Oliveira’s legendary status was confirmed just two years ago

See **OLIVEIRA**, page 16 •



PHOTO BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPOTOS.COM
Karl Oliveira, a Western Mass. Baseball Hall of Famer and longtime player-manager for St. Joe’s of the Tri-County League, passed away last week at the age of 57.

SPORTS

Pioneers ready to get back on the pitch

TIM PETERSON

Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW — After the 2020 soccer season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the members of the Western Mass. Pioneers and the New England Mutiny are eager to start playing matches again at historic Lusitano Stadium.

“Everyone has been impacted by the pandemic during the past year,” said Joe Ferrara Jr., the Pioneers first-year General Manager and the Mutiny Managing Director. “The players and coaches from both teams are itching to get back out on the pitch and play some soccer. It should be another exciting season.”

The last time the Pioneers played a match at Lusitano Stadium was a 1-0 shut-out victory versus Manhattan SC on July 6, 2019. They then wrapped up the 2019 regular season with a 2-1 win at Manhattan SC the following weekend.

The Pioneers, who finished in first place in the Northeast Division standings with an 11-0-3 mark in 2019, began the USL League Two playoffs by dispatching the North Carolina Fusion U23 squad, 3-1, in the Eastern Conference semifinals at Gurski Stadium in Reading, Pennsylvania. Their outstanding season came to an end twenty-four hours later following a 1-0 loss to Reading United AC in the Conference finals.

The Pioneers are scheduled to return to action for the first time in almost two years by hosting Fall River FC in a friendly at Lusitano Stadium at 7:30 p.m. on Friday night. No Spectators will be allowed to attend the preseason match.

There is a very good chance many of the Pioneers faithful supporters will be able to attend the first home match of the regular season against the Seacoast United Phantoms on May 21. A new state guideline which goes into effect on May 10, will increase the capacity from 12% to 25% at all indoor and outdoor stadiums in Massachusetts.

“We’re currently working with the Ludlow Board of Health on the situation, but we’re really hoping to welcome our fans back to the stadium at some point this season,” Ferrara said. “We want everyone to feel safe at our matches. I feel like our safety protocols are second to none. Sports have always been an important part of our community.”

All of the Pioneers home matches this season are scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m. Their other six home matches will be against FC Malaga City (June 4), AC Connecticut (June 11), Black Rock FC (June 18), Boston Bolts (June 26), AC Connecticut (July 2), and Black Rock FC (July 9).

For more information about how to purchase tickets online please visit wmpioneers.com.

Federico Molinari, who’s a former Pioneers player, returns as the head coach.

“Federico and his players did a tremendous job winning the conference title in 2019,” Ferrara said. “Federico and I have been working very well together during the offseason. He has a passion for the game of soccer. He also has a lot of international contacts.”

The Pioneers assistant coaches are Dennis Gomes, Jay Willis, and John Voight.



Several defenders create a way to block a free kick. The season kicks off this week with an exhibition match.



Ben Brewster starts a move up the field. The Pioneers will be back in 2021.

A couple of returning Pioneers players are Guillermo Deal, Blake Mullen, Connor Hicks, and Maxi Viera, who’s the girls’ varsity soccer coach at Ludlow High School.

Viera and Deal were two of the nine players from Uruguay listed on the Pioneers 2019 roster. There were also players from France, Spain, and Argentina, which is Molinari’s home country.

“We do have a lot of international players on this year’s roster,” Ferrara said. “A couple of the foreign players are members of a college soccer team in the United States. Some of them are looking for professional opportunities.”

Mullen, who’s from Manchester, Connecticut, was the Pioneers starting goalkeeper in 2019. He only allowed seven goals during the regular season and was selected to the All-League team. He also received the USL League Two Golden Glove Award.



Micah Umeh sends a shot away during a 2019 playoff.

Back in 2016, Hicks, who graduated from Monson High School, scored the game winning goal in overtime against Cohasset in the Division 4 state championship match. Hicks is also a member of the AIC men’s soccer team.

The Mutiny played their home matches at several different high school in Western Massachusetts, before moving to Lusitano Stadium in 2019.

“The Mutiny had a great first season at Lusitano Stadium two years ago,” Ferrara said. “We also had great weather for all of our home games, which helped bring even more fans to our games.”

The Mutiny, who celebrated their 20th season in 2019, finished the regular season with an 8-0-2 record.

Just like the Pioneers, the Mutiny finished in first place in the league standings and advanced into the Eastern Conference finals of the United Women’s Soccer league.



PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPOTOS.COM
Guillermo Deal tries to settle a ball during one of the last games played in 2019.

After defeating the Long Island Rough Riders, 3-0, at home in the semifinals, the Mutiny’s outstanding season came to an end following a 2-1 loss to the Lancaster Inferno at the stadium two days later.

Jeb Booth returns as the Mutiny head coach following a very successful first season at the helm.

“Jeb is an outstanding soccer coach, and he loves coaching this team,” Ferrara said. “All of the players respect him.”

Matt Johnson, who coached the AIC women’s soccer team for nine seasons and is the first-year head women’s soccer coach at Franklin Pierce, will be an assistant coach for the Mutiny this season.

While the Pioneers roster is made up of mostly international players, most of the Mutiny players are from Western Massachusetts.

“The talent pool has been rich in this area during the past couple of seasons,” Ferrara said. “We have players from ten different communities in Western Mass.”

A few of the local Mutiny players are Jocelyn Trajkovski (Ludlow), Trystin Burger (Granby), Kayla Henry (Belchertown), Hope Santaniello (Agawam), Laura Gouvin (Monson), Alexis Legowski (South Hadley), Lily Fabian (Monson), Brooke Murphy (Monson), Nissa Pereira (Ludlow) and Ela Kopec (Ludlow).

The Mutiny home opener is scheduled to be against the Scorpions SC, who are a first-year team from the Boston area, on May 15.

Their other home matches, which will all begin at 7 p.m., are against CT Rush (May 22), NJ Copa FC (June 5), Syracuse DA (June 19), and the L.I. Rough Riders (July 10).

If fans are allowed to attend soccer matches at Lusitano Stadium this season, it’ll be a good sign that things are finally getting back to normal again. The home fans also help energize both the Pioneers and Mutiny players.

OLIVEIRA • from page 15

when he was inducted into the Western Mass. Baseball Hall of Fame.

While Oliveira at times had taken on a more reserve role, he still continued to actively play in games at the age of 55. He would often play first base or serve as a designated hitter for St. Joe’s, continuing to play under the lights at the old field in Thorndike. He was set to participate in the 2021 season prior to his passing. Like many, the pandemic cancelled his 2020 season and he was itching to get back on the field.

“This is sad news,” said Bill Bathel, who previously was a coach for DiFranco Realty. “Karl was a leader of the league, of a team, of men, women, and children.

And above all, a true and sincere friend.”

Tommy Bouvier, a member of his top competition over the past decade PeoplesBank, said Karl was a great part of the league and someone he enjoyed playing against.

“It’s a huge loss for the league and for the Town of Palmer,” said Bouvier. “He was one of the most committed people I have ever met.”

Oliveira’s life was celebrated earlier this week.

“You are an inspiration to all baseball lovers,” said Brian Hayes. “You live by simple rules, balls and strikes, fair or foul. I loved being your teammate and loved competing against you. For the past 20 years I’ve watched you share your greatness with us. Thank you, and thank you to your family for sharing.”

WRESTLING • from page 15

pate in a given event.

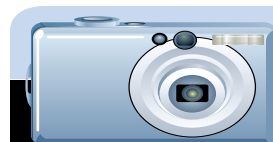
Weigh-ins are a big part of the sport. The MIAA is encouraging each school to hold morning weigh-ins with no additional weigh-ins prior to the meet. A rule allowing the plus-three at night will not be allowed for the modified season.

Another big part of the wrestling season will be the possibility of competition taking place in the open air. Schools participating in the wrestling season are being

encouraged to hold meets outdoors.

There are only a few major match modifications that have been put in place. There will be frequent sanitization of mats and for participants. Referees will need to stop matches in instances where protective ear guards come off. There will be no handshakes before, and after matches. The referee will also only point to winners instead of raising their hands.

Competitions for all spring sports, including wrestling, were set to start this week.



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SPORTS

Rameau takes win in Monadnock season opener

WINCHESTER, N.H. — Sam Rameau dominated early, restarted deep in the field after a pit stop, drove to the front, made a pass for the lead, and rolled to Victory Lane. The Westminster, Massachusetts, native, and driver for Rameau Family Motorsports, was victorious in the season-opener for the Tri Track Open Modified Series presented by All Phases Renovations at Monadnock Speedway on Saturday, May 1.

In the Wonder Casino 100, Rameau made a late pass on Ron Silk to score the \$6,000 winning check — besting more than 30 cars that showed up to the Winchester, New Hampshire oval. Silk crossed the line second, with defending series champion Matt Hirschman third.

Rameau pitted from the lead, along with the rest of the field, during a caution period just after halfway. He restarted outside the top-15 and his chances of winning at that point appeared slim. But the rising Modified talent worked his way to the front.



Sam Rameau won the Tri Track Open Modified series opener last Saturday afternoon at Monadnock Speedway.

“I was just going at my own pace early, and we came in and I’m not going to lie, I was really nervous over the radio,” Rameau said. “With 40 laps to go, I said

there was no way we were winning the race. The car just rolled the outside great. We all come here for the same reason. It’s really cool. I just really can’t thank

my guys enough. They do a great job.”

Two-time NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour champion Justin Bonsignore and Les Hinckley finished the top-five. Ben Byrne was sixth, followed by Woody Pitkat, Anthony Nocella, NASCAR Cup Series driver Ryan Preece and Joey Cipriano III.

Devin O’Connell advanced the most positions during the race, scoring the Green Construction, LLC Hard Charger award, worth \$500. Earlier in the day, Justin Bonsignore, Woody Pitkat, Earl Paules and Ben Byrne won heat races, scoring \$300 each courtesy of Pepsi and the Pepsi Challenge. Anthony Sesely and Brian Robie also scored \$300 each from Pepsi with consi race wins.

The Tri Track Open Modified Series returns to the track at Star Speedway in New Hampshire on Saturday, May 22. For more information on the Tri Track Open Modified Series, visit tri-trackmodifieds.com and follow the series on social media.

THE FINISH:

- Sam Rameau
- Ron Silk
- Matt Hirschman
- Chase Dowling
- Les Hinckley
- Ben Byrne
- Woody Pitkat
- Anthony Nocella
- Ryan Preece
- Joey Cipriano III
- Anthony Sesely
- Max Zachem
- Devin O’Connell
- Joel Monahan
- Chase Dowling
- Chris Pasteryak
- Kurt Vigeant
- Brian Robie
- Doug DiPisa
- Richard Savary
- Matt Swanson
- Matt Kimball
- Kirk Alexander
- Austin Kochenash
- Ronnie Williams
- Glen Reen

Sign up for Quabbin Valley Baseball

REGION – The Quabbin Valley Baseball League is an age 28-and-over league which plays its games Sundays at 10 a.m. beginning in late April and concluding in late August. It is a six-team league and a 15-game schedule with all teams getting at least one playoff game at the end of August.

The league is seeking new players to join in the fun. The cost to play in 2021 is \$192.50 and registration can be found at www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org. Games are mostly being played this year in Easthampton and South Hadley. Players who wish to pitch in the league must be 30-years-old.

Sign-ups will continue to be open as the

league still has open roster spots for new players. Players who sign up in the first few weeks of the season should be able to be placed with a team.

The league’s first games are scheduled for Sunday, April 25. For the 2021 season, there is a mask-wearing rule, as well as modifications that prohibit any type of spitting or close contact, and players are required to take out all trash they bring in with them. The league allows the use of BBCOR-certified -3 bats as well as wood bats. Games are nine innings and all players who participate get to hit and play the field. For more information or to contact someone from the league, go to the league’s website.

Valley Wheel Baseball seeks new players

REGION – The Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League is looking for new players for the 2021 season, which is set to begin at the end of April. Players who are 28-years-old prior to June 1 are eligible to play in the league this season, however, only those 30 by June 1 are eligible to pitch. The league includes six teams and there is a 15-game season that begins on Sunday, April 25. Games are 12 Sundays, a special Mother’s Day weekend Saturday game, and two weekday night games under the lights. The season ends the final week of July with the play-

offs for the top four teams during the first two weeks of August. While tryouts have completed, there are still open roster spots among the six teams in the league. The league will continue to accept applications for new players throughout the season. All players bat and every player spends at least four innings in the field in a nine-inning game. The league will be playing with some minor modifications due to the COVID-19 pandemic to start. For more information, please contact League Commissioner Jim Nason at wheel12@comcast.net.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
OFFICE OF TAX COLLECTOR
NOTICE OF TAX TAKING

To the owners of the hereinafter described land and to all others concerned, you are hereby notified that on **May 24, 2021 at ten o’clock a.m.** at 2 Jabish Street, pursuant to the provisions of General Law Chapter 60, Section 53, and by the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, it is my intention to take for the Town of Belchertown the following parcels of land for non-payment of taxes, liens, betterments, and/or CPA surcharges due thereon with interest and all incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same shall have been paid before that date.

SOALT, EVA & LACHANCE, JEANETTE: A certain parcel of land situated at 55 North Main Street, Unit # 15, containing buildings thereon as shown on Belchertown Assessors Map 243 031.007 and as described in H.C.R.D. Book 3441, Page 94: FY2019 Real Estate \$373.30, FY2020 Real Estate \$2,803.63, FY2020 CPA \$14.80.

Lisa M. Banner
Collector of Taxes

05/06/2021

Notice of Planning Board
Hearing Legal Notice
Relative to
Definitive Subdivision Plan

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 41, Sections 81-T and 81-U, M.G.L., the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing as follows:

Place: Remotely by Planning Board, Belchertown
Date: May 25, 2021
Time: 7:15 PM

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This application is for a Definitive Subdivision Plan submitted by W.D.Cowls, Inc., c/o Thomas R. Reidy, Esq. 6 South East Street, Amherst, MA

01002, designed by Field Engineering Co., Inc., - Richard R. Riccio III, P.E., 11D Industrial Drive, P.O. Box 1178, Mattapoisett, MA 02739, on land owned by W.D. Cowls, Inc., Plan entitled: Great Hills, Map 206, Lots 26-27; Map 206, Lot 44; Map 214, Lot 25; Map 214, Lots 30-33; Map 214, Lots 57-62; Map 215, Lots 3-5; Map 215, Lot 17; Map 215, Lots 21-23; Map 215, Lots 27-36; Map 219, Lots 4-5; Map 219, Lot 8, Map 219, Lot 21

The plan is available for inspection during regular business hours on the Planning Board website.

James Natle, Chairman
Belchertown Planning Board
04/29, 05/06/2021

Notice of Planning Board
Hearing
Relative to
Proposed Master Plan
Adoption
Pursuant to
MGL c.41, §81D

The Planning Board of the Town of Belchertown will hold a public hearing on the proposed Economic Development section of

the town’s master plan, the Community Plan. The public hearing will be held as follows:

Place: Remotely by Planning Board, Belchertown
Date: May 25, 2021
Time: 7:05 PM

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/571586205>

You can also dial in using your phone.

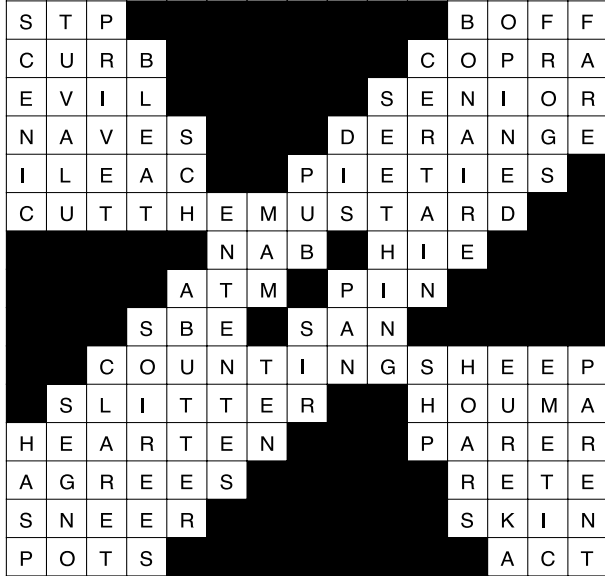
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04/29, 05/06/2021



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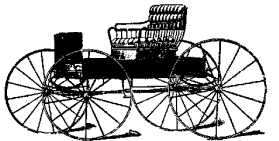
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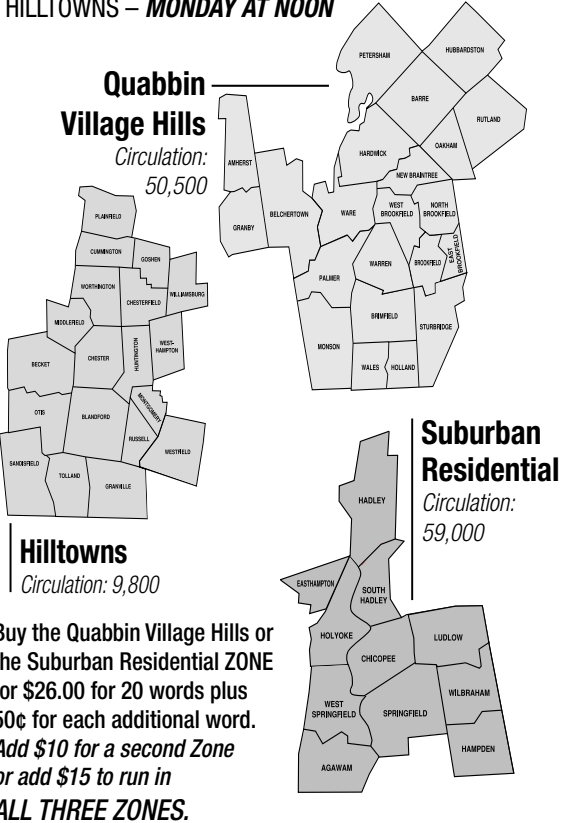
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17	18	19	20
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23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00
27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
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